

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

received

date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Gorlock Building

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 101, 105, 107, 109, 111, 113 West Lockwood Ave. not for publication

city, town Webster Groves vicinity of

state Missouri code 29 county St. Louis code 189

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military

☐ museum
☐ park
☐ private residence
☐ religious
☐ scientific
☐ transportation
☐ other:

4. Owner of Property

name Gorlock Center Corporation

street & number 9120 Olive Blvd.

city, town St. Louis vicinity of state Missouri

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. St. Louis County Recorder of Deeds

street & number 7900 Forsyth

city, town Clayton state Missouri

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

A Historic Survey of the Gore Lockwood
title District in Webster Groves has this property been determined eligible? ☒ yes ☐ nodate May, 1983 federal state ☒ county local

depository for survey records Historic Section of the St. Louis County Dept. of Parks & Recreation

city, town Clayton state Missouri

7. Description

Condition

☐ excellent
☐ good
☒ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date August, 1983

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

This is a large, two-story, L-shaped, brick building with a flat roof. Shops occupy the first floor and offices occupy the second floor. It has a Beaux-Arts exuberance of detail: a pronounced, bracketed cornice, ornately carved stone hood molds over the three entrances to the second floor and brick piers suggesting monumental columns.¹ The facades have a horizontal, symmetrical appearance.² Originally the building consisted of clearly articulated, symmetrical parts:³ large, square, two-story sections on either side of a one-story section (the post office) surmounted by a dome and a carved stone eagle. The east section possessed a symmetry of three bays on either side of the corner entrance at Gore and Lockwood. In the late 1920's the one-story post office on Lockwood was altered to become a Woolworth's and more bays were added on the Gore Avenue side. Now there are six storefronts on Lockwood Avenue and the second story of each of the large, two-story sections is three bays; original bays and then a small bay for a door and a single window, a bay with double windows over an alley and then two bays of double windows over two small storefronts. Those last two storefronts were built as one large, rear entrance to Woolworth's. On the first floor, three large windows on Gore Avenue for the store at the corner of Gore and Lockwood and one large window on Lockwood Avenue have been bricked in. The back of the building is L-shaped. Its windows and doors have arched lintels and on the first floor windows and doors are covered with wrought iron bars. The north side of the Gore Ave. section is covered with tan stucco. The rest of the back is red brick. The street facades are of dark tan brick. The municipal parking lot of the back of the building is low, on the basement level, and a concrete retaining wall contains a small, grassy terrace at the first floor level in the L. The west facade of the Lockwood Avenue building is hardly visible because it is so close to the next building. There are no significant architectural features in the interior. The second floor is reached by stairways.

Footnotes:

1. Blumenson, John J.G.; Identifying American Architecture; pp. 66-67.
2. Poppeliers, John; What Style Is It?; pp. 29-30
3. Whiffen, Marcus; American Architecture Since 1780; p. 149.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1910 and 1911

Builder/Architect Klipstein and Rathmann

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Old Webster commercial district lies between two crossroads: Lockwood Ave. and Gore Avenue and Gore Avenue and the Missouri Pacific Railroad. The two crossroads are the nucleus of the commercial and commercial facilities from which the community of Webster Groves grew.¹ The old buildings, dating from the 1880's through the 1920's create an atmosphere of nostalgia making Webster Groves a unique resource for St. Louis County. The Gorlock Building is the cornerstone of Old Webster.² It is the largest, most elegant piece of real estate in the commercial district and it sits at the prime intersection: Lockwood Avenue and Gore Avenue.

The Gorlock Building has local significance under criterion A, associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history. The Gorlock Building occupies the site of S.A. Moody's old, frame, real estate office in which the meetings³ were held that led to the incorporation of Webster Groves in 1896.³ The first city hall was in Moody's real estate office until 1907 when the municipal offices were moved to the Empire Building on North Gore next to the post office.⁴ In 1909, merchants and residents of Webster Groves learned of a plan to build a new post office on the corner of Lockwood and Gray and to build a new station for the Missouri Pacific Railroad at Rock Hill Road. This made the merchants on North Gore furious because it would move the center of the commercial district farther west and depress North Gore. Led by M.J. Day, owner of the Empire Building, the merchants were able to persuade their congressmen and the United States Post Office to accept a compromise, tear down Moody's real estate office, build the new post office on Lockwood near Gore and move the municipal offices into the new building.⁵ Thus the new Gorlock Building influenced the development pattern of the commercial district, stabilizing it, by keeping the heart of the business district, the government offices, close to the original center of town.

The Gorlock Building is also locally significant under criterion C, embodying characteristics of a distinctive style of architecture. It was designed in 1909 by the architectural firm of Klipstein and Rathmann⁶ and is an example of their early work, for Ernest Klipstein and Walter Rathmann had just formed their partnership in 1908.⁷ Their firm became well known for such buildings as the Bauernhof on the estate of August A. Busch, the Bevo Mill on Gravois, the Civil Courts Building on Tucker Blvd. and Market, and the U.S. Post Office on 18th and Market, and many elegant residences, some in the style of French Chateaux. Ernest Klipstein graduated from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and studied in Munich and at the Atelier Godfrey Freynet, in Paris, where he was probably influenced by the Ecole des beaux-arts. Klipstein and Rathmann designed the Gorlock Building with a Beaux-Arts

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exuberance of detail: a pronounced, bracketed cornice, ornately carved, stone hood molds over the doors¹⁰ and clearly articulated symmetrical parts.¹¹ It was a surprising extravagance for a modest suburb.

The Luecke Bopp Construction Company of Kirkwood built the one-story section on Lockwood for a post office in 1910. In 1911 they built the large, two-story sections that are retail shops on the first floor and offices on the second floor.¹² There was a dedication ceremony in April of 1911 with speeches by United States Congressman Richard Barthold, Postmaster Thomas Akins and Mayor Edward Hart.¹³ The Webster Groves City Hall occupied the second story of the west wing and the jail was in the basement until 1918.¹⁴ In the late 1920's the post office moved and the Gorlock Building had its one-story facade altered and a rear entrance built on Gore Avenue to become a Woolworth's.¹⁵ Except for the post office, the Gorlock Building is little changed. Its historic integrity contributes to the nostalgic atmosphere of Old Webster.

Footnotes

1. Benner, Velma; Webster Groves; Chapter Three, "Settlement Patterns".
2. St. Louis County Department of Parks and Recreation; "A Historic Survey of the Gore-Lockwood District in Webster Groves"; pp. 1-2 and 15-16.
3. "Webster Groves Incorporation"; The Kate Moody Collection at the Missouri Historical Society.
4. "Buildings"; The Kate Moody Collection at the Missouri Historical Society.
5. "Post Office"; The Kate Moody Collection at the Missouri Historical Society.
6. Webster Groves Building Permits #421 and #497, Webster Groves City Hall.
7. Bryan, John Albury; Missouri's Contribution to American Architecture; p. 121.
8. McCue, George; The Building Art in St. Louis: Two Centuries; pp. 164, 107, 46, 58.
9. Bryan; p. 121
10. Blumenson, John J.G.; Identifying American Architecture; pp. 66-67.
11. Whiffen, Marcus; American Architecture Since 1780; p. 149.
12. Webster Groves Building Permits #421 and #497.

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13. "Post Office"; The Kate Moody Collection at the Missouri Historical Society.
14. "Webster Groves City Hall"; The Kate Moody Collection at the Missouri Historical Society.
15. Conservation with Marylou Miller, Webster Groves City Clerk.

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National Park Service

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Benner, Velma; Webster Groves; City of Webster Groves; 1950.

Blumenson, John J.G.; Identifying American Architecture; W.W. Norton and Company, Inc.; New York; 1981.

Bryan, John Albury; Missouri Contribution to American Architecture; St. Louis Architectural Club; St. Louis; 1928.

McCue, George; The Building Art in St. Louis; Two Centuries; Knight Publishing Company; St. Louis; 1981.

Poppeliers, John; What Style Is It?; The Preservation Press of the National Trust for Historic Preservation; Washington, DC; 1977.

Whiffen, Marcus; American Architecture Since 1780; The MIT Press; Cambridge, Massachusetts; 1969.

The Kate Moody Collection; located at the Missouri Historical Society, Jefferson Memorial Building, Forest Park, St. Louis, MO.

"A Historic Survey of the Gore-Lockwood District in Webster Groves"; Historic Section of the St. Louis County Department of Parks and Recreation; Clayton, MO; 1983.

Webster Groves Building Permits #421 and #497; Webster Groves City Hall, 4 E. Lockwood, Webster Groves, MO.

Continuation sheet Gorlock Building Item Number 10 Page 1

Part of Lot 8 of Webster Groves, beginning at Intersection of the North line of Lockwood Avenue with the West line of Gore Avenue; thence along the West line of Gore Avenue 116 feet, 7-1/2 inches, more or less, to the South line of property now or formerly of William F. Clamp; thence West along said South line of Clamp Property and its prolongation westwardly, 169 feet, 11-1/2 inches, more or less to the East line of property now or formerly of Charles Scholz; thence South along said East line of Scholz Property 92 feet, 8 inches, more or less, to a point in the North line of Lockwood Avenue, 181 feet, 8-5/8 inches West of its Intersection with the West line of Gore Avenue and thence East along the North line of Lockwood Avenue 181 feet, 8-5/8 inches to the beginning.

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2. Jim Denny, Chief, Survey & Registration
and State Contact Person
Department of Natural Resources
P.O. Box 176
Jefferson City

August, 1984
(314) 751-4096
Missouri 65102

9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheet

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than 1

Quadrangle name Webster Groves, MO - IL

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References

A

1	5	7	3	0	0	0	0	4	2	7	4	7	4	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B

Zone		Easting				Northing								

C

Zone		Easting				Northing								

D

Zone		Easting				Northing								

E

Zone		Easting				Northing								

F

Zone		Easting				Northing								

G

Zone		Easting				Northing								

H

Zone		Easting				Northing								

Verbal boundary description and justification

See Continuation Sheet

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title ^{1.} Ann Morris

organization Webster Groves Historical Society

date August, 1983

street & number 4 E. Lockwood

telephone (314) 962-3426 (Ann Morris)

city or town Webster Groves

state Missouri 63119

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

John Karel, Director & Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, Division of Parks & Historic Preservation

date

9/4/84

For NPS use only:

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

1961-11 NW
(CREVE COEUR)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

STATE OF MISSOURI
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY AND WATER RESOURCES

90° 22' 30"
38° 37' 30"

1290000 E

R 6 E 1450 000 FEET (III) 20'



GORELOCK BUILDING
Gore and Lockwood Avenues
Webster Groves, Missouri

U.S.G.S. 7.5'
"Webster Groves, MO-1 1"
Scale: 1:24,000

Quadrangle
(1954-rev.
1974)

UTM REFERENCES:

A. 15/730000/4274740

710 000 FEET
(11.1)

4277

475

1.45 N

1.44 N

GORELOCK BUILDING Add. 1 of 4
Webster Groves, St. Louis County, Missouri
Photographer: Esley Hamilton
Date: August 1984
Location of negative: St. Louis County
Department of Parks & Recreation
41 S. Central, Clayton, MO 63105

View looking northwest to south & east fronts



GORELOCK BUILDING

Add. 2 of 4

Webster Groves, St. Louis County, Missouri

Photographer: Esley Hamilton

Date: August 1984

Location of negative: St. Louis County

Dept. of Parks & Recreation

41 S. Central, Clayton, MO 63105

View looking northeast to east half of
south elevation



GORELOCK BUILDING Add. 3 of 4
Webster Groves, St. Louis County, Missouri
Photographer: Esley Hamilton
Date: August 1984
Location of negative: St. Louis County
 Dept. of Parks & Recreation
 41 S. Central, Clayton, MO 63105

View looking northwest to west half of
south elevation



GORELOCK BUILDING Add. 4 of 4
Webster Groves, St. Louis County, Missouri
Photographer: Esley Hamilton
Date: August 1984
Location of negative: St. Louis County
Dept. of Parks & Recreation
41 S. Central, Clayton, MO 63105

View looking southeast to rear facade



GORLOCK BUILDING Photo #1 of 9
Webster Groves, St. Louis County, Missouri

Date: 1911

Location of Negative:
Webster Groves Historical Society
4 E. Lockwood
Webster Groves, MO 63119

View Looking North; South Primary Facade



POST OFFICE AND CITY HALL WEBSTER GROVES MO. H. H. BROWN PHOTOGRAPH

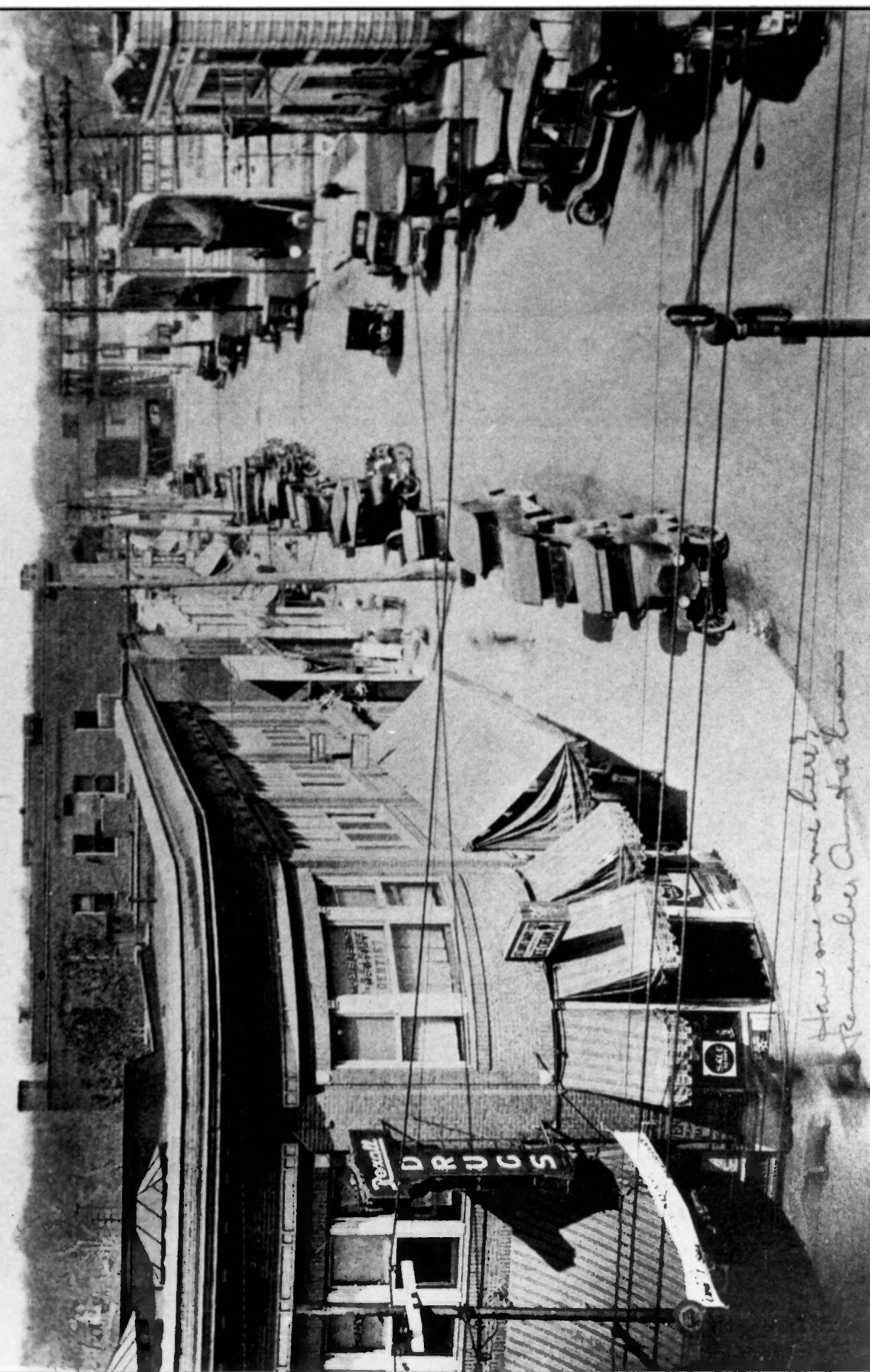
GORLOCK BUILDING Photo #2 of 9
Webster Groves, St. Louis County, Missouri

Date: 1925

Location of Negative:
Webster Groves Historical Society
4 E. Lockwood
Webster Groves, MO 63119

View Looking North; Southeast Corner and
East Facade

Do you recollection the middle of the block. in getting road.
 Webster Groves Business Section and



Have one on me here
 Remember Amie Lee

Looking north on Gore Ave. from Bristol Building. Trust Co. Building in right

GORLOCK BUILDING Photo #3 of 9
Webster Groves, St. Louis County, Missouri

Photographer: Esley Hamilton

Date: August, 1983

Location of Negative:

Webster Groves Historical Society

4 E. Lockwood

Webster Groves, MO 63119

View Looking Northeast; South Primary Facade



GORLOCK BUILDING Photo #4 of 9
Webster Groves, St. Louis County, Missouri

Photographer: Esley Hamilton

Date: August, 1983

Location of Negative:

Webster Groves Historical Society

4 E. Lockwood

Webster Groves, MO 63119

View Looking North; South Primary Facade



GORLOCK BUILDING Photo #5 of 9
Webster Groves, St. Louis County, Missouri

Photographer: Esley Hamilton
Date: August, 1983

Location of Negative:
Webster Groves Historical Society
4 E. Lockwood
Webster Groves, MO 63119

View Looking North; Detail on South Facade



GORLOCK BUILDING Photo #6 of 9
Webster Groves, St. Louis County, Missouri

Photographer: Esley Hamilton

Date: August, 1983

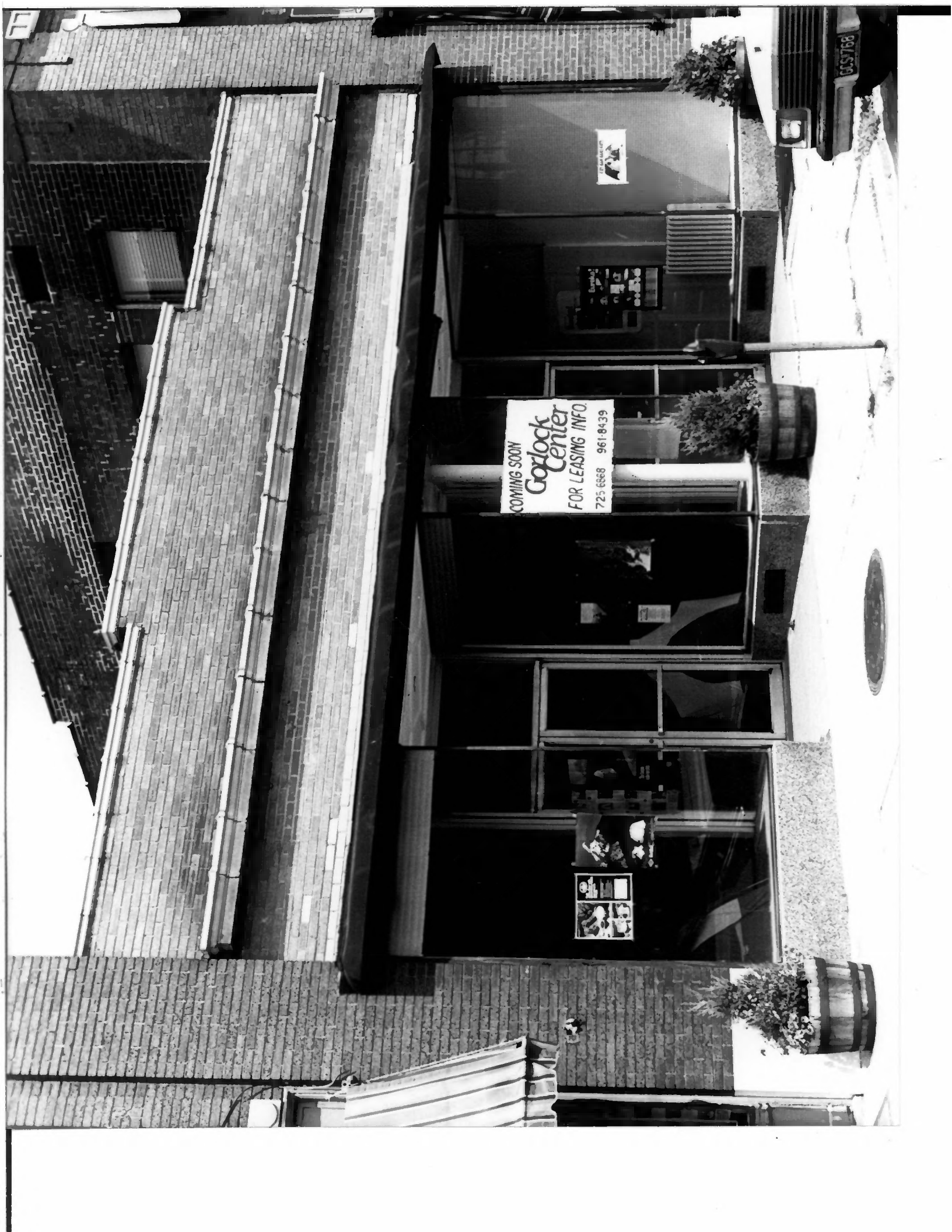
Location of Negative:

Webster Groves Historical Society

4 E. Lockwood

Webster Groves, MO 63119

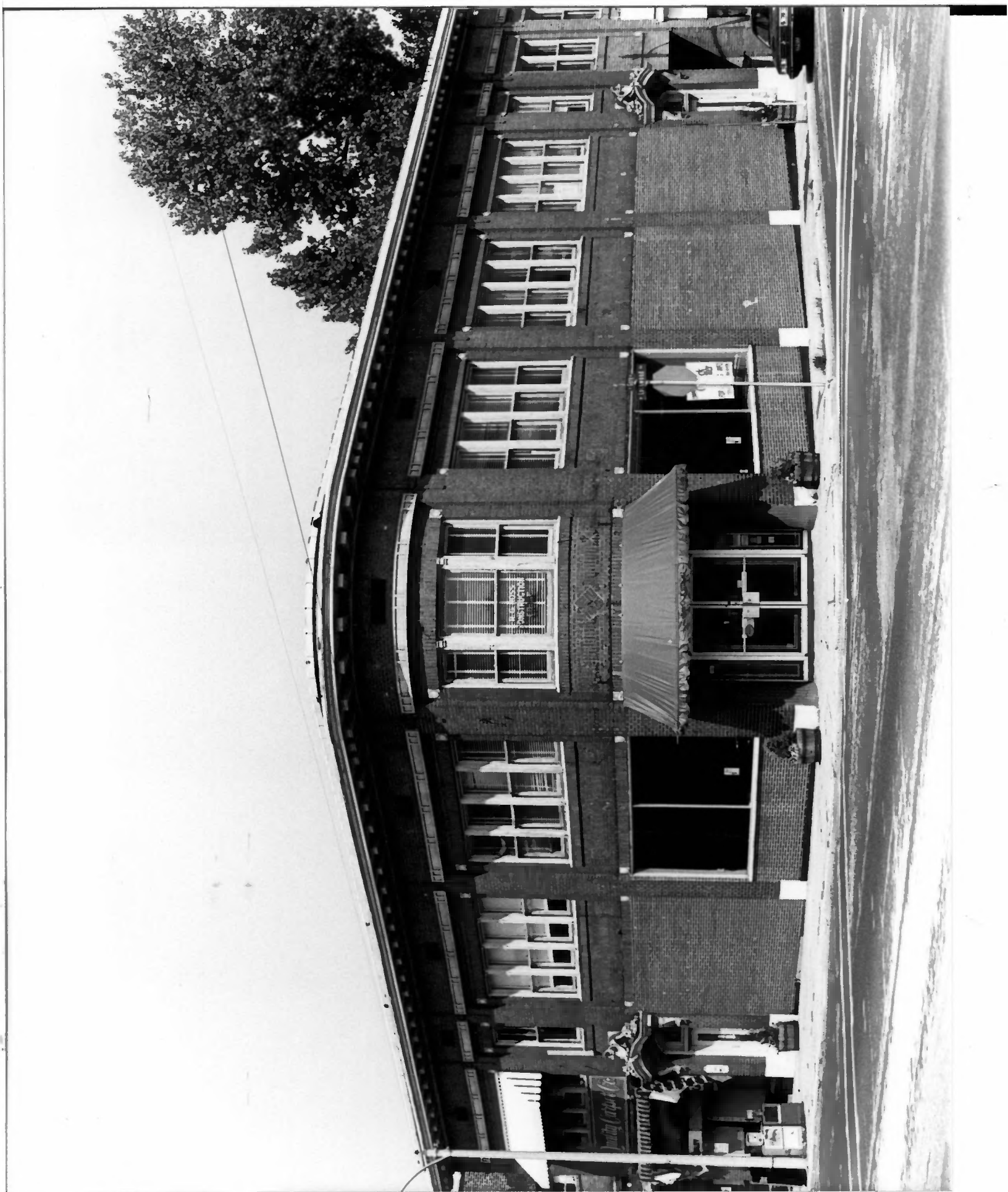
View Looking North; Detail on South Facade



COMING SOON
Gorlock Center
FOR LEASING INFO.
725 6668 961-8439

665768

GORLOCK BUILDING Photo #7 of 9
Webster Groves, St. Louis County, Missouri
Photographer: Esley Hamilton
Date: August, 1983
Location of Negative:
Webster Groves Historical Society
4 E. Lockwood
Webster Groves, MO 63119
View Looking Northwest; Southeast Corner
Facade



GORLOCK BUILDING Photo #8 of 9
Webster Groves, St. Louis County, Missouri

Photographer: Esley Hamilton

Date: August, 1983

Location of Negative:
Webster Groves Historical Society
4 E. Lockwood
Webster Groves, MO 63119

View Looking Southwest; East Facade



GORLOCK BUILDING Photo #9 of 9
Webster Groves, St. Louis County, Missouri

Photographer: Esley Hamilton
Date: August, 1983

Location of Negative:
Webster Groves Historical Society
4 E. Lockwood
Webster Groves, MO 63119

View Looking Southwest; North Rear Facade

